

Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Kenneth E. Picard, Chairman

James A. Brochu

Robert J. Fleming

TOWN MANAGER

Blythe C. Robinson

1 Main Street, Box 1, Upton, MA 01568

Tel: 508-529-6901 Fax: 508-529-1010

brobinson@uptonma.gov

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: March 15, 2013
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 73,750.72
- Expense Warrant: \$ 90,143.37

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- For anyone who has household hazardous waste to get rid of or electronics please mark your calendars for Saturday April 20th. That is the next date that the Board of Health will be holding this event at the DPW Garage. For those who like to plan ahead, the next on site shredding day will be Saturday, June 1st. The shredding day was very popular last year with residents, and will also enable us to properly destroy any Town Hall records as we work to move out of the building later in June.
- The Town Hall renovation project is out to bid! The bid announcement came out on Wednesday, and contractors are scheduled to visit Town Hall on Tuesday March 19th for a site walk through with the architects. For those who work in Town Hall please note that this walk through starts at 11 AM. The bid opening is scheduled for April 9th.
- The police station exterior renovations will also be out to bid in the coming week with a site walk through on March 28th. Bids for this project are due on April 11th.
- We received word this week that we may not receiving notice of our Chapter 90 funds for this season as a result of disagreements at the state level over the Governor's budget and transportation funding plan. Typically we receive formal notification at this time of how much to approve at Town Meeting for the ensuing year. While this is likely a political struggle that will sort itself out, there is a real possibility that no road projects will be able to be done this year unless the Town can fund it itself. We'll keep a sharp eye on this and may recommend that we advocate for an outcome on your behalf.
- The DPW Director and I attended a meeting of the 30 towns that have been awarded the storm water grant from the State CIC Challenge grant. As you know that grant is meant to complete a number of tasks and mapping that will be required of all communities that are subject to the new MS4 permit by the Federal EPA (Upton is one of those communities). Because of the Governor's 9C cuts in the budget the grant request was cut from \$200K to \$115 and it is not possible to carry out all of the needed work with the lower level of funding. It was suggested that all 30 communities each put up \$2,833

Towards this effort in order to get the work done. We have indicated to the group that we will be able to fund that out of our existing article for storm water work. I strongly believe that the tools and mapping we will receive from the project would cost the Town far more on its own, and that there will be future benefits to all 30 towns working together. We have been told that the new MS4 permit will likely be released later this spring.

- The Personnel Board met this week and qualified candidates for both the Town Accountant and COA Department Specialist position. We will be scheduling interviews in the coming weeks to start the process of filling both positions.